

**CLAIMS**

1. A support apparatus, comprising:
  - a base having a recess formed to receive a portable device, the portable device having a desktop portion and a display portion;
  - 5 an anchor movably coupled to said base, the anchor formed to engage the portable device when said desktop portion of said portable device is disposed in the recess of said base; and
  - a support operably coupled to said base, the support extending upwardly from the base for holding the display portion of said portable device.
- 10 2. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - a locking mechanism for the anchor to releasably engage the desktop portion within the recess of said base in a secure relationship therewith.
- 15 3. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - a latching mechanism for the support to releasably hold the display portion in a secure relationship therewith.
- 20 4. The apparatus of Claim 1, the support comprising:
  - a mounting portion formed to hold the display portion of said portable device.
5. The apparatus of Claim 4, the desktop portion being disposed adjacent to the mounting portion in a secure relationship therewith.
- 25 6. The apparatus of Claim 5, the support being hinged onto said base for selectively orienting the portable device by moving the display portion with respect to the base.

7. The apparatus of Claim 1, said portable device includes a laptop computer.
8. The apparatus of Claim 1, said portable device includes a notebook computer.
- 5 9. The apparatus of Claim 1, said base, anchor, and support are configured to form a pedestal.
- 10 10. The apparatus of Claim 9, said pedestal includes a portable computer pedestal.
- 10 11. The apparatus of Claim 9, said pedestal is operative in a manner to cause said portable device to position in a vertical orientation relative to said base.
12. The apparatus of Claim 11, said vertical orientation includes an ergonomic viewing position for the portable device.
- 15 13. The apparatus of Claim 12, said ergonomic viewing position includes a portable device position with the display portion opened to 180 degrees from the desktop portion in a vertical plane relative to said base.
- 20 14. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:  
an activation mechanism for automatically sliding the anchor, in a horizontal plane, away from the base to receive one end of the desktop portion of said portable device within said recess.
- 25 15. The apparatus of Claim 14, said activation mechanism includes a button.

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16. The apparatus of Claim 14, said activation mechanism further comprising:  
an ejector mechanism for causing the support to automatically move in a  
predetermined position, the predetermined position of said support  
facilitates clamping of said display portion of the portable device thereto.

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17. The apparatus of Claim 16, further comprising:  
a release mechanism for disengaging the anchor from the base to decouple said  
one end of the desktop portion of said portable device, said release  
mechanism includes a lever.

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18. The apparatus of Claim 1, said base, anchor, and support are configured to fold in  
a manner to provide a portable pedestal.

19. The apparatus of Claim 1, said display portion is operative in a manner to cause  
the display portion of said portable device to orient in a plane substantially parallel to the  
desktop portion.

20. A pedestal, comprising:  
a base having a housing formed to receive a portable computer; and  
a support, the support is pivotally coupled to the base to releasably engage the  
portable computer at an ergonomic viewing position responsive to the  
placement of said portable computer in the housing of said base.

21. A portable computer pedestal for selectively orienting a portable computer having  
a desktop portion and a display screen in an ergonomic viewing position, comprising:  
a pedestal base having a housing formed to receive said portable computer; and

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5 a support having a mounting portion, the support is movably coupled to the pedestal base to releasably engage the portable computer responsive to the placement of said desktop portion in the housing of said pedestal base, the desktop portion being disposed adjacent to the mounting portion in a secure relationship therewith.

22. An method, comprising:

providing a base having a recess formed to receive a portable device having a desktop portion and a display portion;

10 providing an anchor for engaging the desktop portion in the recess of said base;

providing a support for holding the display portion of said portable device;  
and

interposing the desktop portion in said recess for ergonomically positioning said portable device.

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23. The method of Claim 22, further comprising:

engaging the desktop portion for releasably locking the desktop portion in the recess of said base in a secure relationship therewith.

20 24. The method of Claim 22, further comprising:

latching the display portion for releasably holding the display portion with the support in a secure relationship therewith.

25. The method of Claim 22, said portable device includes a laptop computer.

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26. The method of Claim 22, said portable device includes a notebook computer.

27. The method of Claim 22, said base, anchor, and support are configured to form a pedestal.

28. The method of Claim 27, said pedestal includes a portable computer pedestal.

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29. The method of Claim 27, said pedestal is operative in a manner to cause said portable device to position in a vertical orientation relative to said base.

30. The method of Claim 29, said vertical orientation includes an ergonomic viewing position for the portable device.

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31. A method for orienting a portable computer having a desktop portion and a display screen in an ergonomic viewing position, comprising:

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providing a pedestal base having a housing formed to receive said desktop portion of the portable computer;

providing an anchor for releasably engaging the desktop portion in the housing of said pedestal base;

providing a support for releasably holding the display screen of the portable computer; and

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causing the display screen of the portable computer to be disposed at said ergonomic viewing position in response to placement of the desktop portion in said housing while the display screen being supported by said support.

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32. A support apparatus, comprising:  
a first portion;

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a second portion operably coupled to said first portion for providing vertical support thereon; and  
a third portion movably coupled to said first portion, the third portion formed to provide a housing between the first portion and the third portion;  
5 a fourth portion fixedly coupled to the third portion and movably coupled to the first portion, the fourth portion formed to provide said housing responsive to an activation.

33. The apparatus of Claim 32, the activation is operative in a manner to cause either:  
10 a release of said second portion from the first portion responsive to a first user activation, the first user activation provides said housing; or  
an engagement of said second portion with the first portion responsive to a second user activation, the second user activation securely engages said first portion with said second portion.

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34. The apparatus of Claim 32, the first portion is a back bezel.

35. The apparatus of Claim 32, the second portion is an easel.

20 36. The apparatus of Claim 32, the third portion is a front bezel.

37. The apparatus of Claim 32, the fourth portion is a pedestal base.

38. A portable computer pedestal for ergonomic viewing, comprising:  
25 a first bezel;  
an easel operably coupled to said first bezel for providing vertical support thereon to an object having a distal end;

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- a second bezel operably coupled to said first bezel, the second bezel formed to provide a housing to receive the distal end of the object and removably clamp said distal end of said object therein substantially against said first bezel; and
- 5 a retractable pedestal bottom fixedly coupled to the second bezel and movably coupled to the first bezel, the retractable pedestal bottom and the first bezel are formed to selectively move said second bezel either in a first direction to release said second bezel from the first bezel for providing said housing or in a second direction to engage said second bezel with the
- 10 first bezel for holding said object therebetween.
39. A portable pedestal, comprising:
- a base to receive a display device; and
- a support pivotally coupled to the base for releasably engaging the display device
- 15 in an ergonomic orientation such that the display device is disposed in an upright vertical position providing an improved viewing range suitable for a plurality of viewers.